

REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF VISITORS  
OF THE  
BEDFORD  
LUNATIC ASYLUM,  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER, 1852,  
WITH APPENDIX.

Bedford :

PRINTED BY W. C. GREY, HIGH STREET, ST. MARY'S.

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1853.

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# THE COMMITTEE OF VISITORS,

FOR THE YEAR, 1853.

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## FOR THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD.

THO. CHA. HIGGINS, Esq., Chairman, *Turvey, Newport Pagnel.*  
SIR CHARLES GILLIES PAYNE, BART., *Blunham, St. Neots.*  
JOHN HARVEY, Esq., *Ickwell, Biggleswade.*  
ROBERT LINDSELL, Esq., *Biggleswade.*  
HENRY LITTLEDALE, Esq., *Kempston, Bedford.*  
GEORGE PETER LIVIUS, Esq., *Bedford.*  
CHARLES MOORE, Esq., *Maulden, Silsoe.*  
REV. CHAS. COLYEAR BEATY-POWNALL, *Milton Ernest, Bedford.*  
REV. THOMAS TYLECOTE, *Marston Moretaine, Ampthill.*  
REV. BOTELER CHERNOCKE SMITH, *Aspley Guise, Woburn.*

## FOR THE COUNTY OF HERTFORD.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K. G., *Hatfield.*  
THE HON. THOMAS TREVOR, *The Hoo, Welwyn.*  
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WILLIAM JOHN BLAKE, Esq., *Danesbury, Welwyn.*  
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WILLIAM WILSHERE, Esq., *The Thryfte, Welwyn.*  
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F. P. DELME RADCLIFFE, Esq., *The Priory, Hitchin.*  
REV. FREDERICK SULLIVAN, *Kimpton, Hitchin.*

## FOR THE COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON.

THE HON. OCT. DUNCOMBE, M. P., *Waresley Park, Caxton.*  
JAMES RUST, Esq., *Alconbury House, Huntingdon.*  
JOHN MOYER HEATHCOTE, Esq., *Connington Castle, Stilton.*  
COLONEL LINTON, *Stirtloe House, Buckden.*  
JAMES DUBERLY, Esq., *Gains Hall, St. Neots.*  
GEORGE WILLIAM ROWLEY, Esq., *The Priory, St. Neots.*  
REV. JAMES LINTON, *Hemingford Abbots, St. Ives.*

## FOR THE BOROUGH OF BEDFORD.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Esq., *Mayor.*



*To HER MAJESTY'S Justices  
of the Peace, for the Counties of Bedford,  
Hertford, and Huntingdon in Quarter Ses-  
sions Assembled, and to the Council of the  
Borough of Bedford.*

The Committee of Visitors in compliance with the General Rules for the Government of the Asylum for the said Counties and Borough, herewith submit their Annual Report on the state and condition of the Asylum, for the year 1852, and of the principal transactions that have occurred with reference thereto, during the same period.

The following is a Summary of the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, that have taken place therein.

ADMISSIONS.		M.	F.	Total.
On the 31st Dec. 1851, there were in the Asylum ...		131	136	267
Numbers received during the year.....		25	35	60
Total.....		156	171	327
DISCHARGES AND DEATHS.		M.	F.	Total.
Discharged Recovered.....		5	9	14
„ Removed to care of friends .....		2	9	11
„ Removed to other Asylums.....		10	4	14
Died during the year .....		10	9	19
Remaining on the 31st December, 1852 .....		27 129	31 140	58 269
Total.....		156	171	327



The Patients remaining in the Asylum on the 31st of December, 1852, were from the following Counties, &c., viz—

	M.	F.	Total.
Bedfordshire .....	50	50	100
„ Borough of Bedford .....	2	3	5
Hertfordshire .....	55	62	117
Huntingdonshire.....	21	25	46
Monmouthshire .....	1	...	1
Total.....	129	140	269

The Daily average number of Patients during the year was  $275\frac{1}{4}$ .

The Patients attending Chapel have averaged 87, and the numbers engaged in industrial occupations, either in domestic and household work, in handicraft, or in the cultivation of the Farm, have averaged 130.

The Committee are gratified in reporting a still further decrease in the mortality of the Patients, as will appear on reference to Table ix. of the Resident Medical Officer's Statistics, the numbers being only 19 against 27 last year, 34 in 1851, and 40 in 1850.

In the Report of last year, it was stated that in consequence of the increased number of Patients in the Asylum, and of the Number of Applications for Admission, which had been refused; the Committee had then under their

consideration certain plans and estimates, for providing additional accommodation, as well as for carrying into effect certain improvements and alterations, and that they intended to make a Special Report thereon to the then next Quarter Sessions. Circumstances however shortly afterwards transpired through the resignation of the Steward and Matron, which led to the appointment of a Sub -Committee to consider generally as to the future mode of managing the Asylum; particularly as to the best course to be adopted for the appointment of Officers, and the regulations as to their Residence. The Sub-Committee presented their Report on the 5th of April, recommending—

1. That a Resident Medical Superintendent should be appointed to have the entire management of the Asylum, at the Salary of £300. per Annum, in addition to a House and Furnished Apartments.

2. That a Matron should be appointed at a Salary and sundry allowances.

3. That Mr. Harris should be continued in his Office of Visiting Surgeon only, at a Salary of £150. per Annum, provided he should not be appointed to, and accept the Office of Resident Medical Superintendent.

These recommendations were fully considered and discussed at the Meetings held on the 11th

of May and 1st of June, and were unanimously adopted, the Committee directing them to be carried into effect as soon as practicable.

As more extensive alterations and additions were necessarily involved in the adoption of these recommendations, than those described in the plans and Estimates before referred to, and as the season was far advanced, the Committee determined to postpone the subject of building for a time.

At the May Quarterly meeting a Deputation from Cambridgeshire attended to ascertain the feelings of the Committee upon a proposed union with that County for Asylum purposes. The matter was ordered to be considered at a special meeting of the Visitors, held on the 1st of June, at which meeting the question was fully discussed, and the Deputation being of opinion that the contemplated Union could not be satisfactorily effected without building a new Asylum, on a new Site, the Committee not being prepared to adopt this alternative, declined the proposal to unite.

As a revision of the General Rules, and the Regulations and Orders for the government of the Asylum, was rendered necessary by the adoption of the above mentioned recommendations, a Sub-Committee was appointed to undertake this revision, and their report has been presented and



printed, and the alterations suggested are now under the consideration of the Committee.

At the May Quarterly Meeting the Committee authorized an increase of four Ward Attendants, two on each side, and this addition has enabled the Resident Medical Officer to discontinue the mode of treatment by restraint, as heretofore practised in this Asylum, except in particular cases which have not averaged one weekly.

The Diet of the female Patients has been altered by substituting Tea with Bread and Butter for Breakfast, and Supper in lieu of Oatmeal Gruel, and Bread and Cheese with Beer, which alteration appears to give much satisfaction.

The Committee have granted additional allowances to the Ward Attendants and Servants, on the recommendation of the Superintendent: and it has been reported to the Committee that the privilege has been duly appreciated, and has contributed to greater regularity in the Establishment.

The Corridors on the ground floor have been divided for the purpose of constructing new waiting rooms on each side of the Asylum, which have been found most convenient and useful.

The duties assigned to the Office of Steward since MR. UPSTON'S resignation have been per-

formed by the Resident Medical Officer, with the assistance of a Storekeeper; and those of the Matron were performed by the assistant Matron until the July Meeting, when MRS. ANNA GALER was appointed Matron temporarily, at the Salary of £35. per Annum, with Board, Washing, and furnished apartments. The Committee have allowed gratuities to the Officers performing extra duties as may be seen on reference to the accounts. Appendix, E.

The question of the liability of the Asylum to assessment under the Bedford Improvement Act, was again mooted in consequence of the judgment of the Court of Exchequer, in the cases of the other public Buildings, being in favor of the Commissioners. The subject was brought before the Committee by the Mayor of Bedford, when it was agreed to have a case drawn and submitted for the opinion of Counsel, as to the liability of the Asylum to the rate, with especial reference to the judgment of the Court of Exchequer in the other cases, and to the 25th Sec. of the Statute 8 & 9, Vict. c. 126, which case was subsequently laid before MR. COWLING: and that learned Gentleman gave his opinion that the Asylum was rateable. The Committee then made a proposition to pay a Rate of 1s. 6d. per yard, on 216 yards, 2 feet—that being the length of the front of the County property abutting on the Turnpike Road—amounting to £16. 5s.; which proposal the Commissioners accepted.



The Governors of the Infirmary having applied for the extension of leave for one year ending on the 1st July, 1854, for the burial of Infirmary Patients in the Asylum Cemetery, on the ground that a Public Cemetery is in contemplation; the Committee acceded to the proposition upon the terms contained in the order of May 13th, 1851.

The Committee have to report the death of MRS. PITHER, so many years Matron of the Asylum, and for whose long and faithful services an annual allowance was made.

The Commissioners in Lunacy have made their usual Visitation, and have recorded their observations in the following Minute.

“Bedford County Asylum, December 21st, 1852.

“There are 267 Patients (129 Males and 138 Females) now in the Asylum, of whom seven are registered as being under medical treatment.

“One Female patient was under mechanical restraint, and another secluded at the time of our visit.

“Since the last visit of the Commissioners on the 20th of November last, 62 patients have been admitted, 43 have been discharged, and 21 have died from various causes.

“We have to-day seen all the patients in the Asylum, who were for the most part tranquil at the time of our visit, and have inspected all the Wards used by them, which are clean and in good condition. The day rooms however appear to us to be too crowded.

“We have suggested that a few cheap Weekly Publications (not of a religious character) should be added to the Bibles, Prayer-books, and Tracts, which at present constitute the stock of amusement provided for the patients.

“We understand that a large sum is about to be laid out in enlarging and improving the Establishment.

“The Dietary and Religious Exercises continue the same as heretofore.”

B. W. PROCTOR } COMMISSIONERS  
T. TURNER, } IN LUNACY.

In consequence of the crowded state of the Asylum, the Committee obtained authority from the Secretary of State for the Home Department in December last, to remove the Criminal Patients then in the Asylum to Fisherton-House Asylum, near Salisbury, which is licensed under 8 & 9 Vict. c. 100, and is adapted for this class of Lunatics. DR. FINCH, the proprietor, having previously arranged with the Committee to receive them at eleven Shillings per head, per week, including all expenses but those of removal.

The attention of the Committee having been frequently directed to the inadequate accommodation for the Pauper Lunatics of the three Counties, felt that the time had arrived when it was absolutely necessary that the Asylum should be made sufficiently capacious to contain all the said pauper Lunatics; and so altered, as to enable the Committee to adopt the modern improvements in the management of Lunatic Asylums. And therefore at the November Quarterly Meeting, it was resolved to appoint a Sub-Committee to confer with MR. HILL, Superintendent of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire Asylum, and to authorize him to prepare plans and estimates, for such alterations and enlargements; these MR. HILL prepared and presented to the Committee on the 6th of December, when (subject to the approval of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State) they were unanimously adopted. Detailed descriptions of these plans and estimates are



embodied in the Report of the Committee presented to the respective Quarter Sessions, of which the following is a Copy.—

“REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF VISITORS OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM FOR  
 “THE COUNTIES OF BEDFORD, HERTFORD, AND HUNTINGDON, AND THE  
 “BOROUGH OF BEDFORD, TO THE COURTS OF QUARTER SESSIONS FOR THE  
 “SAID COUNTIES, AGREED UPON AT AN ADJOURNED QUARTERLY MEETING  
 “OF THE VISITORS, HELD AT THE ASYLUM ON MONDAY, THE 6th DAY  
 “OF DECEMBER, 1852.

“The Committee report, that by an order dated the 6th day of October, 1851, in consequence of the crowded state of the Asylum, they were under the necessity of restricting the admission of Patients from the Counties of Hertford and Huntingdon to the numbers prescribed by their respective agreements for union; and that by another order, dated the 6th of September last, by reason of the increase of Patients from the County of Bedford, the Committee found it imperative to declare the Asylum to be full; and from the first named period (except as vacancies occurred in such prescribed numbers) the pauper lunatics from the Counties of Hertford and Huntingdon and from the last named period, the pauper lunatics from the County of Bedford, have been refused admission into the Asylum for want of room, to the serious privation of the poor patients, as well as thereby imposing additional charges upon the Counties and Parishes situated therein. In October last the Committee caused a Circular to be sent to the Boards of Guardians in the three Counties, for a return of the number of pauper lunatics who were confined in other Asylums, or whom the Guardians might wish to send if sufficient accommodation existed in this Asylum: and from an abstract of those returns, laid before the November Quarterly Meeting, it appeared that admission for 10 patients was required from Bedfordshire, 18 from Hertfordshire, and 16 from Huntingdonshire—making a total of 44; and since the date of that return the numbers have increased. The Committee therefore, considering it to be a paramount duty, both morally and legally, to make provision for the reception of these unhappy beings, have directed their anxious attention to the subject. The Committee have too frequently had occasion to lament the inadequate means of accommodation generally within the Institution—the sad want of ventilation—the dark and cheerless rooms—the prison-like yards—the solitary sleeping cells—as if everything was conspiring to retard the restoration to health and reason of the patients. Much outlay has been from time to time incurred in the endeavour to remedy these defects, but as it now appears, upon no sound principle. The Committee have therefore lately called to their aid Mr. Hill, the Superintendent of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire Asylum, which is considered a perfect model of a curative Lunatic Asylum, and Mr. Hill himself, a most judicious exponent of all the requirements which an Institution of the kind demands. The Visitors determined no longer to be satisfied with costly palliatives, and they directed Mr. Hill to prepare plans and estimates on a

“comprehensive arrangement, and Mr. Hill has accordingly prepared plans  
 “both for the erection of new wings to the original block of building, as also  
 “a new range of buildings, including a house for the Superintendent, on the  
 “south-east side facing the railway, with all necessary accommodation for 130  
 “additional patients, and improving the present buildings, at a cost not ex-  
 “ceeding £17,000. (Copies of the plans are herewith presented for the in-  
 “spection of the Justices.)

“The following is Mr. Hill’s detailed estimate:—

Superintendent’s House, with Offices and communications to Wards, Chapel, &c. ....	2,010
Chapel, with Kitchen and Scullery .....	600
Single-bedded rooms, Corridor, Bath-rooms, Attendants’ rooms, &c. ....	1,320
Four day-rooms, 40ft. by 18ft., Stairs, Sinks, and Water-closets, and 4 associated Dormitories .....	2,850
	<hr/>
Proposed new south-east addition .....	6,780
Two new Wings, extending north-west frontage to the extremity of the present Airing courts; containing 4 new Day-rooms, Cori- dors, Single-rooms, Bath and Attendant’s rooms, with other Offices and associated Dormitories with Infirmary .....	3,370
	<hr/>
	£10,150
Approaches from original block of building to proposed new north- west Wings, new Cutting-out room on Female side, and Day- Rooms on Male side, two new Stairs in lieu of present stairs, two Visiting rooms, and Dormitories.....	1,536
Covered double way from old Building to Chapel, &c .....	150
Lodge, and re-erecting Archway and Gates .....	500
Ten covered seats for Pleasure-grounds and Airing-courts.....	200
548 yards of Iron Palisading, 7 feet high.....	600
Conversion of open Sheds in existing Wings to rooms .....	200
Improvements and Alterations in Engineering department .....	680
Furniture for Superintendent and 130 Patients .....	2,000
Contingencies—including Architect’s commission, Clerk of the Works’ salary, and other incidental charges .....	984
	<hr/>
TOTAL.....	£17,000

NOTE.—This estimate does not include the Farm buildings which will hereafter be required.

“Although the Committee at first did not contemplate so large an  
 “outlay, nevertheless, upon maturely weighing every consideration, and ap-  
 “proving exceedingly of the arrangements proposed by Mr. Hill, the Visitors  
 “have unanimously resolved to apply to the respective Courts of Quarter  
 “Sessions to authorize the expenditure above estimated; and they recom-  
 “mend that the said sum of £17,000 be defrayed by the said Counties in the  
 “following proportions:—

Bedfordshire (including the Borough of Bedford) two-fifths...	6,800
Hertfordshire (including the Liberty of St. Albans) two-fifths	6,800
Huntingdonshire, one fifth .....	3,400
	<hr/>
Total.....	£17,000



“And that the respective Courts of Quarter Sessions will make order to charge  
 “and assess the several Counties in the proportions above mentioned ; or to  
 “borrow and take up the same on mortgage of the County rates, under the  
 “authority of the Statutes.

“The Committee, in conclusion, venture to urge the extreme importance  
 “of the grant now demanded. The cost ought not to weigh as a feather in  
 “the scale against the sacred obligation of administering to the necessities of  
 “those individuals who are afflicted with the sorest malady incident to human  
 “nature ; and who can forbear evincing his own gratitude for the exemption  
 “of such an evil by cheerfully contributing his mite towards the mitigation of  
 “the calamity in others ? Having said thus much on the duty, the Visitors  
 “are not without hope that the proposed Scheme will redound to the advan-  
 “tage of the Rate-payers themselves. It will at once ensure a greater number  
 “of Patients, and a reduction in the weekly cost per head will necessarily fol-  
 “low. The Institution on the improved principle will gradually approximate  
 “towards a self-supporting one—there will be greater facilities for the employ-  
 “ment of the Patients in various trades, and by the occupation of a larger  
 “tract of land, remunerative labour will ensue—and when it shall be found  
 “that the weekly cost of Patients is thus reduced, there will be less temptation  
 “on the part of Parish authorities to evade the law by detaining idiots, how-  
 “ever harmless, from partaking of the advantages offered to them at the  
 “Asylum on moderate terms. The public will judge in how very trifling a  
 “degree the proposed expenditure will affect an individual ratepayer, as it ap-  
 “pears from a calculation made in regard to the County of Bedford, a farthing  
 “rate, or nearly so, will discharge the first year’s instalment and interest,  
 “which will lessen every year by the interest on one thirtieth part of the  
 “principal sum borrowed ; and it must be borne in mind that money may be  
 “obtained on such good security as the County rates at a low rate of interest  
 “at the present time. The cost of Patients sent to other Asylums for want  
 “of sufficient accommodation exceeds at least £12. per Annum each, more  
 “than the cost of Patients in this Asylum (exclusive of expenses of convey-  
 “ance, &c.) the greater part of which is repayable, under the provisions of the  
 “Statute, to the Parishes, from the County rates. It is calculated that if the  
 “new Buildings be completed, and consequently a larger number of Patients  
 “admitted (say 400), a diminution in the weekly rate of payment may be  
 “estimated to the amount of one shilling, which would be a saving in the  
 “aggregate of £1,040 per Annum, whilst the charge on the loan would be  
 “diminishing and gradually wearing out.”

“Signed on behalf of the Committee of Visitors,”

“THO. CHA. HIGGINS, CHAIRMAN.”

The Committee, considering additional land indispensable, requested the Chairman to communicate with His Grace the Duke of Bedford, (the Owner of the adjoining property) thereon,

and His Grace's Agent has signified the Duke's consent to sell 15 acres at a price, which is now under consideration.

The subject matter of the foregoing Report was fully discussed at the respective Quarter Sessions. The County of Huntingdon adopted the Report, and authorized the proposed expenditure. The County of Hertford postponed the question to an adjourned Session, and appointed a Committee of Justices to report in the meantime upon the proposition, and its relative bearings ; but the County of Bedford hesitated to grant the sum applied for, on the ground that it might be desirable to purchase Land and build a New Asylum on a new site. Whereupon they appointed a committee of Justices "to confer with the committee of Visitors "in respect of arrangements most desirable for the "purchase of Land, and the erection of a New "Asylum thereon, or on any other plan that may "appear most important for the benefit of Lunatic "Patients."

The Committee of Visitors appointed a Special Meeting for the purpose, on the 18th January, ult., which was attended by the Committee of Justices above mentioned ; and also by a Deputation from the County and Borough of Cambridge, invited by the Justices of the County of Bedford. At this Meeting the questions of building a New Asylum on a new site, and of effecting an union with the County of Cambridge were discussed, and



a Report read from Mr HILL, estimating the cost of a New Asylum for 600 Patients, with the purchase of Land at £69,650, including every expence likely to be incurred.

The Committee of Visitors came to no resolution thereon, but the Justices of the County of Bedford adopted the following, viz.—

The Committee having met in conference, the Visitors of the Asylum and a Deputation from the Justices of Cambridgeshire,

RESOLVED—THAT IT IS THE OPINION OF THIS COMMITTEE,—

“That a New Lunatic Asylum for 600 Patients should be built, and  
“200 Acres of Land purchased for the site as near as may be to the Great  
“Northern Railway, at a cost of £70,000.”

“That the Three Neighbouring Counties of Hertford, Cambridge, and  
“Huntingdon, be invited to unite with Bedfordshire to carry out these  
“Resolutions.”

“And That whereas the County of Bedford possesses a Lunatic Asylum  
“and will be put to considerable extra expence in consequence of that  
“building, besides the loss of the Annual Rent now received from the two  
“Counties of Hertford and Huntingdon, and the Borough of Bedford,  
“therefore these amounts should be divided pro rata by the four Counties,  
“the County of Bedford agreeing to place the Sum obtained for the present  
“Asylum to the credit of the general fund.”

This question therefore now rests in abeyance, until the respective Courts of Quarter Sessions and Town Councils shall have decided what amount of money they will authorize to be raised on the County and Borough Rates; and until the Visitors shall have agreed on the plan most desirable to be adopted on this most important subject.

The Committee further Report that they have audited the accounts of the Treasurer and Clerk

of the Asylum, (8 & 9 Vic. cap. 126, s. 40,) and that the Receipts have been as follows ;—

	£.	s.	d.
To Sales of Produce of Garden and Farm, .....	170	7	5
„ Miscellaneous, ....	5	11	4
„ Unions in the United Counties and Borough, .....	5124	7	2
„ County Liberty and Boro' Treasurers for criminal and Vagrant Lunatics, .....	196	3	1
„ Non-contributory Districts, .....	36	12	0
„ County of Bedford, for ordinary Repairs, .....	287	3	2
Total Receipts, . . .	£5820	4	2

The Payments have been as follows ;—

By Maintenance account, .....	5176	13	8
„ Funerals, removals, and other separate charges, ....	38	8	0
„ Building account, ordinary repairs, .....	296	7	4
„ New chapel, &c., .....	10	14	1
„ Garden and Farm, .....	122	16	0
Total Payments, . . .	£. 5644	19	1

The Balances due to the Asylum are

By Steward, .....	50	0	0
„ Counties and Unions, .....	78	18	5
„ New chapel, washhouse, and laundry account, ....	33	14	1
„ County of Bedford for repairs, .....	31	7	8
„ Cemetery wall account, .....	95	4	11
Total, . . .	£. 289	5	1

The Balances due from the Asylum are

To Treasurer, .....	427	5	6
„ Counties and Unions, .....	50	19	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
„ Mr Matthews, .....	5	3	0
Total, . . .	£. 483	8	4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Leaving a net balance due from the Asylum of £.194 3s. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

The Garden and Farm, (about 12 acres under spade cultivation) after providing the Asylum with vegetables during the year, valued at £89. 7s. 6d. has realized a net profit of £.47 11s. 5d. ; and the value of live and dead stock on the 31st December, was £92. whilst that of the preceding year was £50. only.

The rate of payment fixed by the committee during the year has averaged 7s. 4½d. per head per week ; the whole of this was not required for the ordinary expences of the Asylum, but part of it to repay to the building account the sum of £.839 7s. 2d. which had been expended in furniture, fixtures and fittings to the new buildings, and not included in the estimates. The transfer of this amount to the debit of the maintenance account has increased the actual cost of the Patients to 8s. 4¼d.

(Signed,)

THO. CHA. HIGGINS, *Chairman.*  
 JAMES RUST,  
 OCTAVIUS DUNCOMBE,  
 CHAS. MOORE,  
 ROBT. LINDSELL,  
 C. C. BEATY-POWNALL,  
 THOMAS TYLECOTE,  
 CHARLES G. PAYNE,  
 GEORGE P. LIVIUS,  
 MARLBOROUGH PRYOR,  
 HENRY LITTLEDALE,  
 JOHN HARVEY.

February 7, 1853.





*The following Documents are appended to this Report :—*

REPORT OF VISITING SURGEON & SUPERINTENDENT.	APP. A.
REPORT OF CHAPLAIN. . . . .	B.
RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICER'S STATISTICAL TABLES. .	C.
ABSTRACT ANNUAL RETURNS, SCHEDULE D. . . . .	D.
ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS. . . . .	E.
ABSTRACT OF GARDEN AND FARM ACCOUNTS. . . . .	F.
ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS WITH COUNTIES & UNIONS.	G.
COMPARATIVE TABLE OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURE.	H.



## APPENDIX

[A]

## REPORT

OF THE

VISITING SURGEON AND SUPERINTENDENT,

AND THE

RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICER.

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*To the Committee of Visitors of the Bedford Lunatic Asylum.*

GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to report that during the last year there have been 60 patients admitted, 25 males and 35 females ; out of this number only 14 could be considered curable ; and many were of advanced age.

In consequence of the Asylum having been for some time full, between 40 and 50 patients have been refused admission.

The daily average number of patients in the Asylum has been 275 ; for a considerable period there were more than 280 ; the total number in the Asylum during the year, 327.

At one time there were 284, being 14 more than the Asylum could properly accommodate.

There have been 39 patients discharged, 13 recovered, 11 removed by their friends, improved, and 15 to other Asylums.

There have been 19 deaths, 10 male and 9 female ; the causes of death have been various as stated in the annexed table.

In December 10 Criminal Lunatics were removed by order of the Secretary of State, to Fisherton-House Asylum, near Salisbury. This has been a source of great trouble to the friends of a few of the patients who were in the habit of visiting them, but are now precluded by the distance.

The mortality during the year has been smaller than it has been for some years, and this, irrespective of the small number of admissions.

The health of the patients has been very good and no serious accident has occurred.

We have to report that on the 10th of January, of the present year, an unfortunate occurrence took place. A patient named William Dubberly *alias* Smith, whilst employed in the garden, ran away and made to the river (a short distance from the Asylum) into which he deliberately walked and swam off, inviting those who endeavoured to overtake him, to follow; he swam a considerable distance down the stream, and then floated on his back apparently much at his ease, he then turned over and swam a short distance when he suddenly sank to rise no more. The River was much flooded at the time and every exertion was made to find the body but without success.\* The weather was very cold and we believe he was seized with cramp, which was the cause of his sinking. He had never shown any disposition to suicide, nor do we believe he contemplated it then. It is too much to hope that he made his escape although he was an excellent swimmer. On his escape he was immediately followed by several attendants, and was never lost sight of till he sunk. We entirely acquit the attendants of any blame.

On the subject of Restraint we are still of opinion that in some cases mild Mechanical Restraint is advisable and beneficial.

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\* The body has since been found, after being in the water 48 days, and a Coroner's Jury have returned a verdict of "Accidentally suffocated."



There have been about 130 of both sexes employed in various ways

There are about 14 acres of Land under useful occupation by spade labour.

There are no less than 42 Epileptic Patients, 60 Idiots and Imbeciles, and several of dirty habits.

There were at the end of the year 268 patients,—129 males, 139 females.

The usual tables are annexed.

The Day Rooms, which we have before reported as much too small, are still the same.

The Lavatories on the Female side are still very deficient.

The alteration in the diet we recommended in giving the Females tea, and bread and butter for breakfast and supper, instead of milk porridge, and bread and cheese with beer, has given great satisfaction.

We have the honor to remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient, humble Servants,

J. HARRIS,

*Visiting-Surgeon and Superintendent,*

BENJ. F. MATTHEWS,

*Resident Medical Officer.*

Lunatic Asylum,  
Feb. 7th, 1853.



## APPENDIX

[B]

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN.

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*To the Committee of Visitors of the Bedford Lunatic Asylum.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to report to you that I have been enabled to discharge my duties during the past year with uninterrupted regularity; except for the period during which you kindly granted me leave of absence. It has been a year of extraordinary freedom from sickness; and the few deaths which have occurred were chiefly of aged persons. The labours of the Chaplain have, consequently, in this respect, been less than in preceding years. The attendance at Divine Service has been large, and might I believe have been larger, had the Chapel been sufficiently spacious to accommodate a greater number. But it is too low to admit of proper ventilation, when full, without creating inconvenience to many of the Congregation by the necessary draughts of air. It is impossible for ventilation to be complete, and at the same time comfortable, without a greater altitude of roof. The attendance of the Servants of the Establishment has been very full, and regular, except from unavoidable causes of absence.



The Committee are respectfully requested to make a special allowance for the Chapel Clerk. It is not every Ward Attendant who would be able to discharge that duty at all; and very few could discharge it well, involving as it does the care of the singing if not the leading of it; it is therefore a duty which could not be imposed upon any servant as a part of his regular work; but is one for which a certain fitness is required. May I be permitted to name fifty shillings a year as the least sum which should be granted, for the service required when it is discharged by a servant of this Establishment. We were unable to retain the services of a Clerk, not attached to the house, by a salary of five pounds a year.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD SWANN,  
*Chaplain.*

Bedford,  
January 27th, 1853.

## APPENDIX

[c]

## TABLES.





STATISTICAL TABLES,  
BY THE  
RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICER.

TABLE I.

GENERAL RESULTS OF THE YEAR.

Patients in the Asylum, Dec. 31st, 1851.	M.	F.	Total.
Curable .....	4	10	14
Incurable .....	127	126	253
	131	136	267
Patients admitted during the year .....	25	35	60
Total under treatment .....	156	171	327
Removed during the Year.	M.	F.	Total.
Recovered .....	4	10	14
Improved .....	6	10	16
Unimproved .....	7	2	9
	17	22	39
Died .....	10	9	19
Remaining in the Asylum, Dec. 31, 1852 .....	129	140	269

TABLE II.

NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS,  
DURING EACH MONTH IN THE YEAR.

Months.	Admissions.			Discharges.			Deaths.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
January .....	1	2	3		1	1		2	2
February .....	2	5	7		1	1	1	1	2
March .....	2	4	6				2	3	5
April .....	2	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	2
May .....	5	6	11	1	2	3			
June .....	5		5	2	3	5	1		1
July .....	2	5	7	2	3	5	1		1
August .....	3	5	8	2	2	4	1		1
September .....	1	1	2		1	1			
October .....		1	1	1	2	3		1	1
November .....		3	3		3	3	3		3
December .....	2	2	4	8	3	11		1	1
Total .....	25	35	60	17	22	39	10	9	19

\* \* *The Six following Tables contain the particulars of 60 cases admitted during the year.*

TABLE III.

Age.	M.	F.	T.
Under 10 to 20 years .....	1	2	3
From 20 to 30 years .....	4	12	16
„ 30 to 40 years .....	7	8	15
„ 40 to 50 years .....	6	6	12
„ 50 to 60 years .....	1	3	4
„ 60 to 70 years .....	1	1	2
„ 70 to 80 years .....	4	3	7
„ 80 to 90 years .....	1		1
Total .....	25	35	60

TABLE IV.

Duration of Insanity previous to Admission.	M.	F.	T.
Not exceeding 1 week.....	2	1	3
"    "    2 weeks .....		2	2
"    "    1 month .....	2	9	11
"    "    3 months.....	2	2	4
"    "    1 year .....	1	1	2
"    "    2 years.....	1	2	3
"    "    3 years .....	1	1	2
"    "    4 years.....	1	1	2
"    "    5 years.....	0	1	1
Not ascertained .....	11	11	22
Congenital .....	4	4	8
Total .....	25	35	60

TABLE V.

Social Condition.	M.	F.	T.
Married .....	5	12	17
Widowed .....	4	6	10
Single .....	16	17	33
Total .....	25	35	60

TABLE VI.

Form of Insanity.	M.	F.	T.
Mania with Delusions .....	11	16	27
Suicidal .....	1	1	2
Epilepsy .....	1	1	2
Melancholia .....		4	4
Suicidal.....	1	3	4
Dementia .....	4	5	9
Amentia .....	4	3	7
Imbecile .....	3	2	5
Total .....	25	35	60



TABLE VII.

Number of Attacks.	M.	F.	T.
First .....	3	6	9
Not Ascertained .....	16	23	39
Congenital .....	6	6	12
Total .....	25	35	60

TABLE VIII.

## OCCUPATIONS.

MALES.		FEMALES.	
Labourers .....	14	Labourer's Wives .....	9
Gardeners .....	3	Servants .....	9
Hawker .....	1	Plaiters .....	4
Wheelwright .....	1	Miller's Wife .....	1
Brick-maker .....	1	Ladies' Maids .....	2
Millwright .....	1	Lacemakers .....	2
Maltster .....	1	Dressmaker .....	1
No Occupation .....	3	No Occupation .....	7
Total .....	25	Total .....	35

\* \* \* *The Six following Tables contain the particulars of 39 Patients discharged during the year.*

TABLE IX.

Age.	M.	F.	T.
From 20 to 30 years .....		7	7
„ 30 to 40 years .....	4	7	11
„ 40 to 50 years .....	9	5	14
„ 50 to 60 years .....	2	3	5
„ 60 to 70 years .....	1		1
„ 70 to 80 years .....	1		1
Total .....	17	22	39

TABLE X.

Form of Insanity.	M.	F.	T.
Mania with Delusions .....	10	8	18
Melancholia with Delusions .....	2	6	8
Suicidal .....	1	4	5
Dementia .....	1	1	2
Imbecility .....	3	3	6
Total .....	17	22	39

TABLE XI.

Residence in the Asylum.	M.	F.	T.
Not exceeding 1 month .....	1	2	3
"    4 months .....	2	4	6
"    6 months .....	3	5	8
"    1 year .....	3	1	4
"    2 years .....	3	6	9
"    3 years .....		3	3
"    4 years .....	2		2
"    6 years .....	2	1	3
"    9 years .....	1		1
Total .....	17	22	39

TABLE XII.

Number of Attacks.	M.	F.	T.
First attack .....	3	10	13
Not ascertained .....	14	12	26
Total.....	17	22	39

TABLE XIII.

Social Condition.	M.	F.	T.
Married .....	5	6	11
Widowed .....	3	2	5
Single .....	9	14	23
Total.....	17	22	39

TABLE XIV.

O C C U P A T I O N S.			
MALES.		FEMALES.	
Gardeners .....	3	Labourer's Wives .....	5
Labourers .....	2	Servants .....	8
Carpenters .....	2	Dressmaker .....	1
Block-maker .....	1	Ladies' Maid .....	1
No Occupation .....	9	No Occupation .....	7
Total .....	17	Total .....	22

*\*\* The Six following Tables contain the particulars of 19 deaths during the year.*

TABLE XV.

Age.	M.	F.	T.
From 20 to 30 years .....		2	2
„ 30 to 40 years .....	2		2
„ 40 to 50 years .....	1	2	3
„ 60 to 70 years .....	1	2	3
„ 70 to 80 years .....	5	3	8
„ 80 to 90 years .....	1		1
Total.....	10	9	19

TABLE XVI.

Social Condition.	M.	F.	T.
Married .....	4	1	5
Widowed .....	4	4	8
Single .....	2	4	6
Total.....	10	9	19



TABLE XVII.

Form of Insanity.	M.	F.	T.
Mania . . . . .	2	3	5
Melancholia . . . . .		2	2
Dementia . . . . .	8	4	12
Total . . . . .	10	9	19

TABLE XVIII.

Residence in the Asylum.	M.	F.	T.
Not exceeding 2 weeks . . . . .		1	1
„ „ 1 month . . . . .	1		1
„ „ 3 months . . . . .	1	1	2
„ „ 6 months . . . . .	1	3	4
„ „ 2 years . . . . .	2	2	4
„ „ 3 years . . . . .	1		1
„ „ 4 years . . . . .	1	1	2
„ „ 5 years . . . . .	1		1
„ „ 9 years . . . . .		1	1
„ „ 14 years . . . . .	2		2
Total . . . . .	10	9	19

TABLE XIX.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.	T.
Influenza . . . . .		1	1
Disease of the Heart . . . . .		2	2
Scrofula . . . . .		1	1
Epilepsy . . . . .	1		1
Gradual Exhaustion . . . . .	2	2	4
Gangrene . . . . .		1	1
Gradual Decay . . . . .	2		2
Hydrothorax . . . . .		1	1
General Paralysis . . . . .	1		1
Appoplexy . . . . .	3		3
Cancer of Stomach . . . . .	1		1
Disease of the Lungs . . . . .		1	1
Total . . . . .	10	9	19

TABLE XX.

OCCUPATIONS.			
MALES.		FEMALES.	
Labourers .....	3	Plaiter .....	1
Butcher .....	1	Servants .....	2
Carpenter. ....	1	No Occupation .....	6
Shoemaker .....	1		
Maltster .....	1		
Millwright .....	1		
Post boy .....	1		
No Occupation. ....	1		
Total .....	10	Total .....	9

*\*\*\* The Three following Tables contain the particulars of  
269 Patients remaining in the Asylum, Dec. 31st, 1852.*

TABLE XXI.

Number.	M.	F.	T.
Curable.....	2	4	6
Incurable .....	127	136	263
Total.....	129	140	269

TABLE XXII.

Age.	M.	F.	T.
From 10 to 20 years .....	16	11	27
„ 20 to 30 years .....	32	20	52
„ 30 to 40 years .....	25	25	50
„ 40 to 50 years .....	28	58	86
„ 50 to 06 years .....	26	20	46
„ 60 to 70 years .....	1	3	4
„ 70 to 90 years .....	1	3	4
Total.....	129	140	269

TABLE XXIII.

Social Condition.	M.	F.	T.
Married .....	35	48	83
Widowed .....	4	15	19
Single .....	90	77	167
Total.....	129	140	269

TABLE XXIV.

*General Table of Admissions, including all Re-admissions, from the Opening of the Asylum, in 1812, to Dec. 31st, 1852.*

	1851.			1852.			Total.		Total.
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	
Admissions & Re-admissions	898	891	1789	25	35	60	923	926	1849
Deduct Re-admissions .....	49	49	98	6	5	11	55	54	109
Total .....	849	842	1691	19	30	49	868	872	1740

TABLE XXV.

## DISCIPLINE.

*All the Patients in the Asylum, except the sick, rise, are set to work, leave off work, and go to bed, at the times mentioned as under, viz.—*

	Time for Rising.	Interval for Breakfast	Time for Work.	Interval for Dinner.	Time for Work.	Interval for Supper.	Time for going to bed. *
From 25 Mar. to 29 Sept.	6 o'clock.	7 to 8	8 to 12	12 to 2	2 to 6	half past 6	8 o'clock.
From 29 Sept. to 25th March.	6 o'clock.	7 to 8	8 to 12	12 to 2	2 to 4	half past 6	8 o'clock.

\* Those Patients who wish to go to bed earlier are allowed to do so.

## TABLE XXVI.

## DIETARY.

Days of the week.	Breakfast.		Dinner.		Supper.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females,	Males.	Females.
Sunday, ..	8 oz. bread, 1½ pint porridge.	6 oz. bread, 1 pint porridge.	6 oz. meat with vegetables.	5 oz. bread with vegetables.	8 oz. bread 1½ oz. cheese ½ pint beer.	½ lb. plum bread ½ pint tea
Monday ..	.....	.....	1½ pint soup with 8 oz. bread.	1 pint soup with 6 oz bread		6 oz. bread ½ oz. butter ½ pt. tea.
Tuesday ..	.....	.....	6 oz. meat with vegetables	5 oz. meat with vegetables.	.....	.....
Wednesday	.....	.....	1½ pint soup with 8 oz. bread.	1 pint soup with 6 oz. bread.	.....	.....
Thursday..	.....	.....	6 oz. meat with vegetables.	5 oz. meat with vegetables.	.....	.....
Friday ...	.....	.....	1½ pint soup with 8 oz. bread.	1 pint soup with 6 oz bread.	.....	.....
Saturday ..	.....	.....	16 oz. suet pudding.	12 oz. suet pudding.	.....	.....

Sick Patients, .....	whatever is ordered by the Superintendent or Medical Officer.
Patients in the Galleries ..	two ounces of bread, half an ounce of cheese, and half a pint of beer for luncheon.
Patients in the garden .....	two ounces of bread, half an ounce of cheese, and half a pint of beer for luncheon, and half a pint of beer in the afternoon.
Patients in the wash-house and Laundry .....	two ounces of bread, half an ounce of cheese, and half a pint of beer for luncheon—six ounces of meat and vegetables for dinner—and half a pint of beer in the afternoon.

BENJ. FIELDING MATTHEWS,

*Resident Medical Officer.*



## APPENDIX

[D]

## ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL RETURNS,

8 &amp; 9 VICT., CAP. 126. SCHEDULE D.

Name of Union.	In County Asylum.		In Licensed Houses or other Asylums		With Friends and in Workhouses.		Totals of both Sexes.	Persons not in confinement.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		Dangerous to self or others.		Of Dirty Habits.	
								M.	F.	M.	F.
<i>Bedfordshire.</i>											
Ampthill .....	10	9	1	1	3	6	30	..	..	2	..
Bedford .....	11	24	3	1	8	8	55	..	..	..	..
Biggleswade .....	12	4	..	1	8	15	40	..	..	2	1
Hitchin, part of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Leighton Buz.,pt. of	1	2	1	..	1	..	5	..	..	1	..
Luton, part of .....	11	7	3	2	2	4	29	..	..	..	1
Neots St., part of..	..	1	1	1	1	4	8	..	..	..	..
Wellingboro,'part of	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Woburn.....	6	5	..	1	2	4	18	..	..	..	..
Totals .....	51	52	9	7	27	41	187			5	2
<i>Hertfordshire.</i>											
Albans St. ....	4	4	2	..	10	25	45	..	..	..	..
Amersham, part of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barnet, part of ...	..	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Berkhampsteadpt.of	4	3	..	1	3	8	19	..	..	..	1
BishopStortfordptof	7	6	..	2	8	11	34	..	..	1	..
Buntingford .....	2	4	..	..	2	2	10	..	..	..	..
Edmonton, part of	1	2	..	2	2	..	7	..	..	..	..
Hatfield .....	4	7	..	..	1	4	16	..	..	..	2
Hemel Hempstead..	4	6	..	2	..	2	14	..	..	..	..
Hertford .....	8	6	..	1	4	4	23	..	..	..	..
Hitchin, part of ..	11	11	..	..	10	13	45	..	..	2	..
Luton, part of .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Royston... ..	..	1	..	..	3	2	6	..	..	..	..
Ware .....	4	6	2	..	7	10	29	..	..	..	1
Watford.....	9	7	..	1	4	5	26	..	..	3	3
Welwyn.....	..	2	..	..	2	1	5	..	..	..	..
Totals .....	58	66	4	10	56	87	281			6	7
<i>Huntingdonshire.</i>											
Caxton, part of...	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Huntingdon .....	5	11	..	2	4	2	24	..	..	1	..
Ives, St., part of ..	9	7	1	2	2	..	21	..	..	..	..
Neots, St., part of..	6	3	2	1	2	7	21	..	..	..	..
Oundle, part of....	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Peterboro,' part of	1	1	1	1	3	2	9	..	..	..	..
Stamford, part of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thrapston, part of..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..
Totals ...	22	22	4	6	13	14	81			1	
Grand Totals .....	131	140	17	23	96	142	549			12	9

